Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Dec. 16, 2004

### **NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe resigns**

From NASA Headquarters Release

Administrator Sean O'Keefe, who over the past three years led NASA through an aggressive and comprehensive management transformation and helped the agency through one of its most painful tragedies, resigned Monday.

In his resignation letter to the President the Administrator wrote, "I will continue until you have named a successor and in the hope the Senate will act on your nomination by February."

"I've been honored to serve this
President, the American people and my
talented colleagues here at NASA," said
Administrator O'Keefe. "Together, we've
enjoyed unprecedented success and seen
each other through arduous circumstances.
This was the most difficult decision I've
ever made, but it's one I felt was best for
my family and our future."

O'Keefe, 48, is NASA's tenth administrator. Nominated by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he

was sworn into office Dec. 21, 2001. It was the Administrator's fourth Presidential appointment.

After joining NASA, Administrator O'Keefe focused his efforts on successfully bringing financial credibility to the Agency and eliminating a \$5 billion budget shortfall for the International Space Station program. He introduced a number of innovative management and budget reforms. He led all federal agencies in the implementation of the President's Management Agenda, which is designed to make government more responsive and efficient. In three of the original five categories on the Agenda, NASA's performance is at the highest standard.

The tragic loss of seven astronauts aboard the Space Shuttle Columbia as it re-entered the Earth's atmosphere during STS-107 on Feb. 1, 2003, focused the nation's attention on the future of America's space program.

Administrator
O'Keefe directed
significant changes
in the Space
Shuttle's safety
and management
programs. He



O'Keefe

was a key architect of the President's new Vision for Space Exploration, announced in January during a historic speech at NASA Headquarters in Washington.

The new Vision for Space Exploration led a transformation of NASA and has positioned the Agency to meet the challenges of safely returning the Space Shuttle to flight, completing the International Space Station, exploring the complexities of our home planet, and going back to the moon, on to Mars and beyond.

"The President and Congress have demonstrated their faith in us. We need to See O'Keefe on page 2

# Charles Chitwood named deputy director of Marshall Center

David King, Marshall Center director, has named Charles B. Chitwood as the new deputy director of the center. Chitwood will succeed Rex Geveden who recently became NASA's chief engineer at its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"I'm pleased that Charles Chitwood is joining NASA's senior leadership team," said William F. Readdy, NASA associate administrator of the Space Operations Mission Directorate. "As we ready the Space Shuttle to return to flight and work to realize the Vision for Space Exploration, this is a critical time for NASA. Charles' management and leadership skills and his



Chitwood

experience in industry make him a great addition to the NASA team."

Prior to accepting this position with NASA, Chitwood served on the board of directors for the Schafer Corporation and led the system engineering and integration division. As general manager for Schafer's

See Chitwood on page 2

### Marshall Center sets CFC fundraising record, pledges \$615,339

By Grant Thompson

Employees of Marshall Center have set a new center pledging record by raising \$615,339 for the annual Combined Federal Campaign. This year's total exceeded the 2004 goal by more than \$65,000.

The local Combined Federal Campaign is a joint effort by federal agencies, including the Marshall Center's civil servant and contract personnel, to raise money for charities in Huntsville and its surrounding area. This year's Marshall fund-raising

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#### 'Holiday Magic in the Snow' at Marshall

Marshall Center team members enjoy music, food and fellowship at the "Holiday Magic in the Snow" annual holiday reception on Dec. 9. Team members who donated to the North Alabama Food Bank received door prize tickets. More than 540 pounds of food was donated-enough to feed about 500 people.

### O'Keefe -

#### Continued from page 1

seize this opportunity," added Administrator O'Keefe. "NASA has a new direction that will push the boundaries of technology, science, space flight and knowledge, and will inspire new generations of explorers for years to come and secure this great nation's future."

Encouraging students to study mathematics, science and technology has been a priority for the Administrator. In April 2002, he unveiled a new Educator Astronaut Program, in which a select few of the most outstanding teachers would be chosen to join NASA's Astronaut Corps. The new Educator Astronaut candidates were introduced in May on Space Day and are in training at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

During his tenure, Administrator O'Keefe realized a number of significant mission triumphs, including Cassini's exploration of Saturn and its moons, the recent successful hypersonic test flights of the X-43A and the historic landing of the twin Mars Exploration Rovers Spirit and Opportunity on the Red Planet in January.

"NASA is the only Agency in the world where its people are allowed to dream big and then work to make those dreams come true. Who wouldn't treasure the opportunity to be a part of pioneering history?" added the Administrator. "I'm humbled by the dedication and determination of the NASA Family and their commitment to the future of exploration. I wish each of them the very best. I am confident in their ability to carry out what we've started," Administrator O'Keefe concluded.

### Chitwood -

Continued from page 1

Huntsville Operation, he led the development of the company's system, software, test and specialty engineering processes.

Prior to his experience with Schafer, Chitwood served in varying management and engineering positions with other technology and systems development companies and programs. He worked for the Computer Sciences Corporation as the technical director for its U. S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Scientific, Engineering and Technical Assistance Contract. Prior to that he served as general manager of the Huntsville Division of Coleman Technologies.

"Charles comes to NASA with impressive business and technical capabilities that will make him a valuable addition to our leadership. I look forward to working closely with him to help the Marshall Center play a key role in fulfilling NASA's Vision for Space Exploration," said King.

Chitwood has authored more than 20 articles for scientific journals on basic research in high energy heavy ion nuclear physics. He holds a bachelor's in physics from Tennessee Technological University and has completed coursework toward a doctorate in physics at Michigan State University.

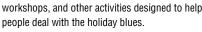
### Ways to Beat the Holiday Blues By Lynn Motley

The holidays aren't always filled with cheer and glad tidings. They can sometimes be stressful, sad and disappointing. Fear of disappointing others, expecting gifts to improve relationships and bad memories can all lead to a "bah humbug" holiday.

But there are ways to beat the holiday blues. Here are a few suggestions:

- Be realistic. Don't expect the holiday season to solve all past problems. The forced cheerfulness of the holiday season cannot ward off sadness or loneliness.
- Drink less alcohol. Even though drinking alcohol gives you a temporary feeling of well-being, it is a depressant.
- Give yourself permission not to feel cheerful. Accept how you are feeling. If you have recently experienced a loss, you can't expect yourself to put on a happy face. Tell others how you are feeling and what you need.
- Have a spending limit and stick to it.
- Be honest. Express your feelings to those around you in a constructive, honest, and open way.

Look for sources of support. Learn about offerings at mental health centers, churches, and synagogues. Many of these have special support groups,



- Give yourself special care. Schedule times to relax and pamper yourself.
- Volunteer your time. Volunteering can help raise your spirits by turning your focus to people who are less fortunate than you are.
- Get some exercise. Exercise has a positive impact on depression because it boosts serotonin levels. Try to get some type of exercise at least twice each week.

Lynn Motley is the Employee Assistance Program Coordinator for the Marshall Center. She has more than 20 years of experience counseling individuals, couples, and in a variety of group settings. Call her at 544-7549 to schedule a consultation.

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### NASA installs main engines on Discovery

By Lynnette Madison

TASA completed installation last week of the three main engines that will help launch Space Shuttle Discovery on its Return to Flight mission. Installation was completed Dec. 8 at the Orbiter Processing Facility at NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Fla.

"This milestone concludes the assembly, processing, inspection, data review and tests required for acceptance of engines," said Space Shuttle Main Engine project manager, Gene Goldman, at the Marshall Center.

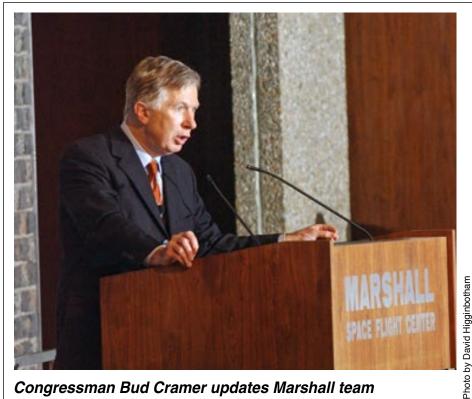
The Return to Flight mission, designated STS-114, is targeted for a launch opportunity beginning in May 2005. The seven-member Discovery crew will fly to the International Space Station primarily to test and evaluate new procedures for flight safety, including Space Shuttle inspection and repair techniques.

Returning the Space Shuttle to flight is the first step in realizing the Vision for Space Exploration. The Vision calls for a stepping-stone strategy of human and robotic missions to achieve the nation's new exploration goals, starting with returning the Shuttle safely to flight and completing the International Space Station.

"Although there is still much work to be done, the engines are the last big components to install on the orbiter prior to rolling over to the Vehicle Assembly Building," said Stephanie Stilson, NASA's Discovery vehicle manager. "This shows we're moving in the right direction for Return to Flight," she added.

During liftoff, each of the three engines consumes 132,000 gallons of liquid hydrogen and 49,000 gallons of liquid oxygen fuel. That's more than half a million gallons of fuel during an eight-and-onehalf-minute launch. If the three engines pumped water instead of fuel, they could drain an average-sized swimming pool in 25 seconds. The Marshall Center manages the Space Shuttle Main Engine Project for the Space Shuttle Propulsion Program.

The writer, an ASRI employee, supports the Public Affairs Office.



Congressman Bud Cramer updates Marshall team

U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer talks with Marshall team members Dec. 9 about his support of NASA and his work on the federal budget.

### CFC

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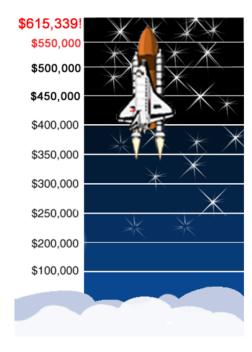
campaign goal was \$550,000—the center's highest target ever-and featured the theme "You Are Not Alone."

"Each year, members of the Marshall Center workforce play a vital role in supporting local charities," said Barbara Breithaupt, chairman of the Marshall Center campaign. "Donors will be able to see the benefits of their generosity because funds and resources raised go directly to organizations in our community.

"Thanks to all of the Marshall employees who participated in this year's campaign, you are the reason it is successful year after year," Breithaupt added.

Marshall team members also generously gave their time to local charities by helping build handicap accessibility ramps for homes, landscaping the grounds of several non-profit agencies, and staffing the Angel Trees.

The writer, an ASRI employee, supports the Public Affairs Office.



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#### Obituaries -

Esly A. "Joe" Clanton, 78, of Huntsville, died Nov. 17. Mr. Clanton retired from the Marshall Center in 1986 after working as an electrical engineer. He was part of the design team for the Lunar Excursion Module, Apollo and Skylab.

Survivors include his wife, Gladys Clanton of Huntsville; and his children, Jeff Clanton of Nashville, Jim Clanton of Tuscaloosa, and Jody Wilson of Birmingham.

**Garvis Odell Cooper**, 86, of Huntsville, died Nov. 14. Mr. Cooper retired from the Marshall Center in 1974 after working as

an electrical engineering technician. He was a World War II veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Louise T. Cooper of Huntsville; his daughters, Sue Williamson of Santa Barbara, Calif., and Charlene Edwards and Diane Cooper, both of Huntsville.

**Ted L. Knowling Jr.**, 72, of Huntsville, died Nov. 4. Mr. Knowling retired from the Marshall Center in 1990 after working as a physicist. During his NASA career, he worked on the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and Skylab manned missions. He also worked with the Hubble Space Telescope

development team.

Survivors include his wife, Betty C. Knowling of Huntsville; his children, Ted. L. Knowling III of Huntsville, Dr. Robert J. Knowling of Huntsville, James C. Knowling of Jacksonville, Fla., Jane K. Thurmer of West College Corner, Ind., and Amy K. Williams of Huntsville; his stepchildren, Rick Kyle of Naperville, Ill., and Annette K. Maier of Huntsville; and his brother, Dr. Robert E. Knowling of Knoxville.

**Nolen F. Poarch**, 78, of Huntsville, died Nov. 6. Mr. Poarch retired from the Marshall Center in 1981 after working as an engineer. He worked on the Saturn V rocket and the lunar landing program.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Poarch of Huntsville; his children, Jill Graves of Middleton, Wis., Larry Nolen Poarch, Lyle Vann Poarch and Lamar Deal Poarch, all of Huntsville; and his sister, Martha Huie of Birmingham.

Charles R. Smith, 72, of Huntsville, died Oct. 23. Mr. Smith retired from the Marshall Center in 1989 after working as an aerospace engineer. He joined the U.S. Coast Guard at age 15 and retired after nearly 40 years.

Survivors include his son, Charles Joseph Smith; and a sister, Sharon Rutland.

**Julius Glenn Warren**, 89, of Cullman, died Nov. 14. Mr. Warren retired from the Marshall Center in 1972 after working as an electronic technician. He was a World War II veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Hazel Perry Warren of Cullman; two sons, Perry Warren of Cullman and Charles Warren of Birmingham; and a sister, Thelma Lewis.

**Raymond "Pete" Hall**, 73, of Huntsville, died Dec. 2. Mr. Hall retired from the Marshall Center in 1981 after working as an electrical engineer.

Survivors include his wife, Sandra Hall; children, Susan Hall Foreman of Harvest and Timothy R. Hall of Huntsville; and a sister, Bettye Jane Nash of Decatur.





#### MARS Coed Volleyball Club Champs

The MARS Coed Volleyball Club ended its regular season Nov. 19. Six teams divided evenly into Divisions I and II for the tournament that followed. Of those teams, two were victorious: KAOS won Division I and the Gravediggers won Division II. In the top photo, the KAOS are from left, Michael Busbey, Bill Witherow, Val Korman, Jessica Gaskin, Dennis Gallagher, David Reynolds and John Busbey.

The Gravediggers from left are: Roger Bunnell, Alyssa Bermea, Lori Manis, Eric Taylor, Rick Manis, Daniel McFall, Craig Stafford, Dorinna Thom and Ed Bermea.

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### **Announcements**





Gill

Wales

### Gill, Wales win seats on the Marshall Exchange Council

Hansel Gill and May Wales were elected to fill two vacant seats on the Marshall Exchange Council during voting that took place from Nov. 22 – Dec. 8. Civil service employees cast a total of 675 votes. Gill, a Marshall Center employee since 1990, works with the Metallurgy Research Team as an Aerospace Metallic Materials Engineer. Wales, lead support specialist in the Center Operations Directorate, Integrated Customer Support Department, Operations and Sustaining Support Group, has been with the center for 30 years. The Marshall Exchange Council oversees exchange programs and policies.

# Chamber of Commerce to hold membership meeting

The Chamber of Commerce of Huntsville-Madison County will hold its 69th Annual Membership Meeting at 11:30 a.m. Jan. 11 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions will speak. Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased from Rosa Kilpatrick, Government and Community Relations Office.

### Auto Shop closed from Dec. 24 –Jan. 2

The Auto Shop in Bldg. 4678 will be closed from Dec. 24 to Jan. 2. It will reopen Jan. 3. For more information, call Terry Thompson at 881-7640.

## Billy Ray's will close Dec. 23; reopen Dec. 27

Billy Ray's Restaurant in Bldg. 4663 will be closed Dec. 23 and reopen Dec. 27. For more information, call 544-0214.

### New Weight Watchers classes start Jan. 6

Weight Watchers at Work meetings are held Thursdays at 10:45 a.m., Bldg. 4203, Room 3002. New classes begin Jan. 6. For more information, call Vanita Brown at 544-2476.

# Wellness Center will be closed Saturday

The Wellness Center will be closed Saturday due to a heating problem. It will reopen Monday.

# Marshall Star, Daily Planet on holiday break

The Marshall Star, which is published 50 times per year, will not publish for two weeks during the holiday season.

The last issue of the year will be Dec. 16. Publication will resume Jan. 6. The Star office will close Dec. 20-23 and reopen Dec. 27. Classified ads may still be submitted during this time for future publication.

The Daily Planet will cease publication Dec. 20 and resume Jan. 3.



Scoffield

### Marshall prime contractors meet, elect officers

The Marshall Prime Contractor Supplier Council met in San Destin, Fla. Oct. 4-6. Jacobs Sverdrup Technology, Inc., hosted the event. Eighteen Marshall Center team members attended.

The council elected Ron Belz of Jacobs Sverdrup Technology, Inc., to replace Jenifer Scoffield, ATK Thiokol, as council chair through 2006. Scoffield's term expires Dec. 31. Becky Martin of The Boeing Company was elected vice-chair and Denise Thirkill, ATK Thiokol, will serve as recording secretary. Scoffield was honored for her outstanding leadership and commitment to the organization.

# Marshall Engineers and Scientists to meet Thursday

The Marshall Engineers and Scientists Association monthly meeting will be 11:30 a.m. Thursday in Bldg. 4471, Room C-105.

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### Classified Ads

#### Miscellaneous

Longaberger baskets; 1990 Heartland Chore basket, medium, \$45; 1991 Father's Day Spare Change, \$100. 379-2159/Sarah

Pennsylvania House entertainment center, Cherry, holds up to 30" TV. \$750. 931-427-2059

Dehydrator for food items, wood burning insert to fireplace w/electric fan, downsizing, make offer. 256-498-3680

Three piece entertainment center, solid cherry, 6'Hx8'W, \$1,200. 828-0756

Pageant dress, size 7, pink w/bead work, \$185. 256-652-6268

Camper shell, 94-01 SWB Dodge full-size Century Deluxe, fiberglass w/windows, \$650. 534-4378

Ladies 14K pear cut 0.75, \$1,200; Get the Edge, \$75; Counter top w/deep bowl & faucet, 49", \$100. 552-0998

Remote controlled lift chair, never used, \$500. 256-773-2189

AKC German Shepherd puppies, Champion line, born 9/29/04, black/tan, vet checked, \$400. 256-694-5912

Scooter, red, gas-powered, electric-start, basket, lights, new in box, \$200. 776-9165

Two semi-formal short-sleeve sequined dresses, size 12/14, black/silver, \$30, royal blue, \$20. 828-3887

Western digital 160gb hard drive, 7200rpm, 8mb cache, SCSI/IDE, new in box, \$100. 828-1234

Antique marble fireplace mantel and accessories. 256-426-6026/Lynn

Carrera Roller skates, black, size 1 & 4, \$70 each. 256-710-2468

Decorative cast iron vent-free thermostatically controlled zero-clearance gas heater, 35k BTU, \$350. 650-2965

Console w/9" tv and dvd for minivan, \$200; Monessen vented LP gas logs, \$150. 881-7000

Platform-to-floor hand winch lift/hand truck, 750 lb. capacity, \$400. 256-230-0640

Sears Lifestyler CARDIOFit plus push and pull exerciser, \$50. 922-9311

Pugs, AKC, 5m/2f, fawn w/black masks, ready Dec. 18-23, \$600 each. 256-882-2037 Collectible dolls: Lee Middleton, Barbies, Bru, porcelain Raggedy Ann & Andy, others. 882-7011

Boxer dogs, neutered male, all shots, housebroken, fawn, brindle or white, \$50 each. 420-8101

Pair of black irons w/brass eagle finials, \$115. 882-1097 Magnavox tv, 19", \$30. 464-8933

Bassett Hound puppy, 11 months, has papers, AKC registration, \$200. 772-7478

Queen size waterbed, complete, fully baffled, dark wood, four poster, \$60. 726-2224

Electric range, \$125; refrigerator, \$125; formal sofa, \$125, 430-6842

Bachman HO scale "Iron Duke" electric train set, lighted steam locomotive, 7 cars, bridge & trestle set, track, power pack, instructions, not used, original box, \$95. 882-6947

Full size bedroom suite: bed, chest, dresser, nightstands, mattress, bedding, \$500. 256-864-2517

Orange Bowl tickets, Section 153, Row 29, seats 1 & 2, \$750. 885-0559

Oak crib by ChildCraft, medium finish, mattress, sheets, blanket, bumper pads, diaper bag, \$125. 963-6088

Diamond Channel Anniversary band, 1 carat total, \$150. 922-9294

Two Futon bunk beds, white metal, mattress free, \$150 ea./\$250 both. 431-1556

Mavica MVC-CD400 4.0 MegaPixel digital camera, accessories, batteries, records on 3"CD-RW, \$300.

Wagner 425 airless paint sprayer, 1/3hp, electric motor, power roller, 50' hose, \$200, 882-2369/Krebsbach

Blue metal bunkbeds, top single, bottom, double, \$125; roll-away bed, \$30. 830-5154/evenings

Tube steps for 99-04 GMC/Chevy extended cab, 4-door pickup, chrome, never installed, \$250. 895-0886/Ken

Queen size waterbed w/liner, semi-motionless mattress and heater, \$40.

Cottage Victorian dresser, \$275; Mahogany pie crust coffee table, \$120; Loveseat, ivory color, \$175. 527-4610

Dell 8400, 3ghz, 1gb, DDR2, 160GV-HD, 16x dvd-rw, 19" LCD, 128MB X800, dvd-rom, \$1,650. 251-650-2385

Aquarium, 75 gallon, heater, power head, filter, stand, \$375. 682-0986

#### **Vehicles**

1999 Chevrolet truck, LS 1500, 2wd, ext. cab, 59k miles, pewter/gray w/gray leather interior, \$13,200. 256-423-3259

1996 Honda XR100 dirt bike, 4 stroke, \$1,200. 655-6293

1999 Chevrolet Cavalier, 2D, gold, sunroof, 86k miles, \$4,200. 883-1003

1989 Ford F150 truck, automatic, 79k miles, power windows, \$2,700. 509-5375

1996 Honda Passport, v6, 4-door, auto, air, 99k miles, \$4,200, 348-7146

1995 Nissian Maxima GLE, loaded. 603-6306

2003 Chevrolet Tracker, convertible, black, 4wd, 11k miles, \$11,900. 256-533-5942

1991 Prizm/Corolla, 170k miles, new brakes, muffler, radiator, thermostat, 134ac, automatic. 859-8798

1986 F150, 4-speed w/overdrive, 5L/v6, ps/pb, crew cab, swb, class 3 hitch, \$1,500. 882-0461

2003 Alero, 4-door, v6, auto, gold, 36k miles, w/extended warranty, \$9,500. 232-1310 before 12 weekdays

#### Wanted

Power scooter, chair and/or wheelchair. 881-6040

Wall mounted Shop Vac, Food Processor, lightly used. 655-7972

Two tickets to Alison Krauss & Union Station January concert in Huntsville. 881-7000

Treadmill in good condition, reasonably priced. 256-658-2778

#### Free

Puppies, Chow/Lab mix. 503-2688

To good home, one year old neutered male Weinmarainer. 508-7388

#### Found

Label maker, Bldg. 4201, in case. Call 544-3623 to claim/identify

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